



TOWN OF FREDERICK

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January 20, 2006

Dear Fellow Resident,

For several years Weld County Road 13 (WCR 13) has been in need of reconstruction to increase safety and provide better traffic flow. However, due to the significant cost of road construction, the Town of Frederick has been unable to provide a long-term solution for this problem. During the last several years the Town has installed some temporary patches and provided maintenance as resources would allow. Now, with the current growth of Frederick, the Town is in a position to capture some of the funding that comes with new residential and commercial development to create a solution to the deficiencies in WCR 13 without increasing taxes. There are three options that we are now faced with, as outlined below:

OPTION 1: Continued reactionary maintenance (timeline: on-going)

The Town could choose to provide surface treatments (asphalt overlays) for the worst sections of the road. This option would cost several hundred thousand dollars and would only offer temporary relief since the issues with rutting and lack of drainage are caused by the weak materials that make up the road base beneath the asphalt. This option would require on-going attention and would not include any intersection improvements.

OPTION 2: Reconstruction of the road on a "pay-as-we-go" basis (timeline: 5-7 year construction period)

This option would completely re-build the road and provide a long-term solution to the weak road base and surface treatment, but would utilize only the resources that the Town would gain in any given year to pay for the construction. This means that the actual construction project would stretch out over a five to seven year period since the Town could not afford to do the project all at once. Given the annually increasing costs of construction and the annually reoccurring costs of mobilizing construction equipment, this option would cost much more than option three, as described below.

OPTION 3: Bond issue approach (timeline: 1 year construction period)

This solution would provide a complete reconstruction of the road from WCR 20 south to Colorado Highway 52, including significant intersection improvements at Highway 52, WCR 18, 1st Street, 5th Street, and the new 13th Street adjacent to the future Miner's Park Town Center development. This option would only take one year to complete and would be made possible by utilizing current dollars to borrow the resources needed for the entire project without increasing taxes. This is the lowest cost alternative for a long-term fix to WCR 13 that would provide the necessary safety and traffic flow improvements to this essential transportation corridor.

The Town has received public input on the WCR 13 project as part of two public meetings during the past year, and has discussed the project at several Town Board meetings, including two joint study sessions with the Town Planning Commission. At the January 26 Board Meeting, the Trustees will make the final decision on the financing approach for this important project. I invite you to come to this meeting to provide your views and hear the discussion of this issue. I would also like to thank those citizens who have already provided their input as well as the Board of Trustees for their tremendous work in connection with the WCR 13 reconstruction project.

Sincerely,

Eric E. Doering
Mayor